

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REP

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY : Rumania

SUBJECT : The Medical Service of the Rumanian Armed Forces

DATE OF INFO : [REDACTED]

PLACE ACQUIRED : [REDACTED]

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1. The Medical Service of the Rumanian Army (Serviciul Medico - Militar) had the status of a general directorate at the Ministry of Armed Forces (MFA). The service was commanded by General G. Dimitrescu, a graduate physician who, after World War II, did post graduate study in the USSR on the organization, management, and operation of military medical units.
2. The headquarters of the medical service was composed of departmental commanders who acted as professional advisers to the director of the service. In times of need, civilian experts, usually from branches of medicine that were not normally represented in the armed forces (such as neurosurgery), were attached to the headquarters. [REDACTED]

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[ ] among those known to exist were the department for military hospitals, the department for dentistry, and the department for balneology; the dentistry department was headed by Col. Victor Ionescu. As a rule, the departmental heads were required to do part time work at the central military hospital on Viking Street in Bucharest in addition to their duties at the service headquarters.

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3. The following types of military hospitals were known to exist during peacetime [ ]

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- a. Central hospitals, each with at least 500 beds.
- b. Military district command hospitals, one or more of which operated at each of the military district commands. The departments of the district command hospitals, each of which had about 300 beds, were for surgery and orthopedy, internal diseases, skin and venereal diseases, nose, ear, and throat diseases, and nervous diseases. There was also a dental clinic at each of these hospitals. Dental clinics were only rarely found at military establishments below the district command level. No dentist, therefore, was included in the medical staff of a regiment, but a salaried civilian dentist was customarily employed at the regimental infirmary.

- c. Garrison infirmaries, each with several dozen beds.
- 4. Medical services at the regimental level were provided by a team of professional physicians under the regimental medical officer. Attached

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to this team were a number of medical assistants (feldshers) who operated the regimental infirmary, which had about a dozen beds. The professional standard of the medical assistants was relatively low and did not qualify them to carry out such types of treatment as blood transfusions and tracheotomies.

5. Medical officers who practiced in the service were selected primarily on the basis of their social origin and political record, only secondarily, by their professional qualifications. The medical officers fell into one of the following three categories: graduates of the Institute of Military Medicine (Institutul Medico-Militar) in Bucharest; graduates of medical schools who had also received military training in the academic reserves; and salaried civilian doctors. Graduates of the Institute of Military Medicine signed a contract to serve two years for every year of study they received at Army expense (the training expenses at this institue<sup>t</sup> were borne by the Army), under normal, regular service conditions and with full officer's pay. The curriculum at the institute corresponded closely to that of a regular medical school.
6. Graduates of other medical schools who had undergone military training in the academic reserves were posted to military units after completion of their studies in the same way as other young doctors in Rumania were sent to work in rural dispensaries and hospitals. These medical school graduates did not sign any contract with the Army and, officially, no law or general headquarters order prevented them from leaving the military service. In practice, however, they found it difficult to

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obtain a release, since a release from the service was usually granted only on such grounds as physical disability or departure from the country.

7. Salaried civilian doctors did not wear a uniform but were carried on the manpower lists of their respective units with regard to rank and pay. Their employment was usually for limited periods of time only and could be discontinued from either side at will.

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**COUNTRY** : Rumania

**SUBJECT** : The 212th Antiaircraft Artillery  
Regiment in Ploesti

**DATE OF INFO** :

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1. In late 1958, the 212th Antiaircraft Artillery Regiment, [redacted] was stationed on 23 August (formerly Cantacuzino) Street in Ploesti. At the same time, seven or eight similar formations were stationed in Ploesti and included the 244th Regiment and the 277th Regiment, whose barracks were near those of the 212th Regiment, i.e., in the vicinity of the city's western railroad station (sara de vest). All of the antiaircraft artillery regiments in the city were under the command of Ploesti District Antiaircraft Defense Headquarters, whose commanding officer held the rank of colonel.
2. The 212th Regiment consisted of a regimental headquarters, affire control and communications center, eight batteries of antiaircraft

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guns, a training battery, a services battery (supplies, stores, transport), and a workshop. The regimental command consisted, in part, of commanding officer Vasile Duca (a Major), chief-of-staff Gucu (fnu) (a major), the deputy commander (a captain), political deputy Ion Covrig (a captain), the deputy chief-of-staff (a captain), the signals officer (a senior lieutenant), the operations officer (a captain), the recruiting officer (a senior lieutenant), the intelligence officer (a captain), and the quartermaster officer (a lieutenant colonel<sup>1</sup>). Headquarters consisted of about 30 men, of whom two or three were soldier-clerks, two or three were typists, and the others officers.

3. The regimental fire control and communications center consisted of three officers: the commander of the center, a captain; the political officer; and the deputy officer. Approximately 30 soldiers served at the center, which included a number of glass maps, one of which was large and the others small. Data for plotting were not transmitted automatically but were communicated by voice.
4. Each of the regiment's eight batteries held eight guns. During 1955/1956, all of the batteries except one held 76.2-mm guns; one battery had 85-mm guns. In 1957, the 76.2-mm guns were stored and replaced by 85-mm and 100-mm guns. In late 1958, two of the batteries were armed with 100-mm guns and six were armed with 85-mm guns. Each battery consisted of the battery commander (a senior lieutenant or captain), the deputy commander, the political deputy, two platoon commanders,

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and the battery headquarters platoon commander. Each battery had a seven-man crew for each of its eight guns and 10 soldiers at the battery headquarters, as well as the soldiers of the service unit. The total strength of a battery amounted to about 80 men.

5. The training battery, the regimental school, conducted courses of instruction for gun crew commanders and other tradesmen in the regiment, including signalers and fire control personnel. Each course lasted one year and consisted of about 80 trainees. An average of about 55 trainees usually completed these courses successfully and were then posted to their respective duties in the regiment. (Each year, about one-third of the regiment's manpower was demobilized and replaced by new recruits.) The course for crew commanders included instruction in the following: artillery pieces; small arms; foot drill; rules and regulations; theoretical instruction in antiaircraft fire; and identification of enemy aircraft ( [REDACTED] )

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[REDACTED]. The course also included a two-month exercise in firing practice. More than half the time of the course was spent in actual training on the guns. Twice each week, the students did one or two hours of night training.

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6. The 85-mm and 100-mm guns were operated with the aid of a battery fire control radar (Statie Ochfire Tunari - SOT), which included a PUAZO-4 or PUAZO-5 predictor. The eight guns of the battery were positioned around the predictor in a circle with a diameter of about 100 meters. During the firing practice, the guns were aimed either

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by the "imaginary point" method (in the opposite direction of the aircraft's flight) or by the towed target method.

7. The regimental service unit consisted of about 100 men, including the storemen, the drivers (for trucks towing the guns), the armorers, the metal workers, and the automechanics.
8. The regiment had a large workshop for the repair of its guns and the guns of other units in the area. Other antiaircraft artillery units in Floenti had similar, but smaller, workshops. The 212th regimental workshop also charged batteries and repaired small arms. The repair of optical and electronic equipment and of motors was not carried out in the framework of this formation.
9. The 212th Antiaircraft Artillery Regiment was reportedly disbanded in late 1959.

Comment:

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1. Apparently, certain field officers of the prewar army were permitted to continue their service and to retain their ranks, but they were denied command positions and were not paid in accordance with rank.

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